

Records of African Tineidae (Lepidoptera) — with
Description of a New Species and a Previously
Unknown Female from Ghana

By K. P. BLAND*

A collection of moths made by M. B. Usher in Ghana from 1971 to 1973 and now in the Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh, included the following Tineidae collected at light:—

Ceratophaga vastella (Zeller 1852) two ♀♀; Mole National Game Reserve, 19-21.vi.1972. Gen. slide L.0581.

Crypsithyris hemiphracta (Meyrick 1926) one ♂; Mole National Game Reserve, 9°15'N., 1°50'W., 18-19.i.1973. Gen. slide L.0597 and one ♀ from same locality but dated 19-21.vi.1972. Gen. slide L.0575.

According to Gozmány & Vári (1973), this species is only known from the male type from Rhodesia. The present male agrees with the holotype in genitalia (see Figure 1) and wing pattern but is considerably smaller—8.5 mm. wing-span as opposed to 11 mm. in holotype. The dark fuscous suffusion along the posterior part of the costa and along the termen is more pronounced than is implied by Meyrick's description.

♀ Alar expanse 9 mm. Externally indistinguishable from male. ♀ genitalia (see Figure 2): Very similar to those of *C. miranda* (Gozmány 1966) having the same short ovipositor with blade-like papillae anales and the dense curtain of bristles covering the ostium. Differs from *C. miranda* in the absence of a three-pronged signum and in the more complex shape of the prebursal thickening of the ductus. This thickening is cylindrical with one side of the posterior rim produced into a rounded tongue, while the other side is reflected forwards into a beak-shaped projection.

Crypsithyris falcovalva spec. nov.; Holotype ♂; Ghana, Samreboi, 5°37'N., 2°34'W., 5.i.1973, M. B. Usher. Gen. slide L.0595. Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh.

♂ Alar expanse 11 mm. Antennae shining dark fuscous. Palpi fuscous with pale tips. Head covered with erect ochreous-yellow hairscales. Thorax pale shining ochreous with some fuscous anteriorly. Tegulae fuscous anteriorly then pale ochreous. Forewings with pale greyish subhyaline spot at $\frac{1}{2}$; this spot elongate-oval with a slight constriction before the middle: Ground colour of forewings pale shining ochreous, sparingly sprinkled with dark fuscous and pale orange: Basal $\frac{3}{4}$ of costa suffused with dark fuscous which expands into a diffuse triangular patch at $\frac{1}{2}$; apex of this fuscous patch not reaching the subhyaline spot: An extensive dark fuscous suffusion extending from apex along termen almost to tornus: A diffuse fuscous dot on dorsum at $\frac{1}{2}$: Terminal cilia pale greyish ochreous, except immediately below apex and at tornus where pale ochreous: Underside of forewings shining dark fuscous with a slight sheen, except below fold where pale ochreous. Hindwings shining ochreous-fuscous; cilia paler.

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Fig 1

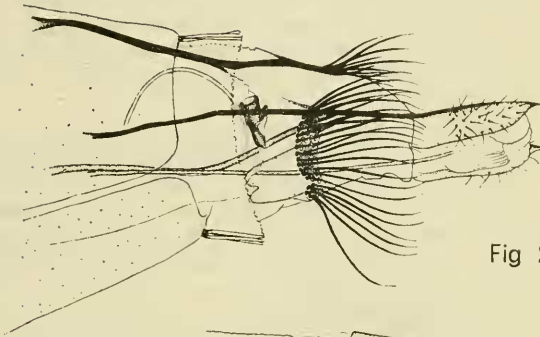
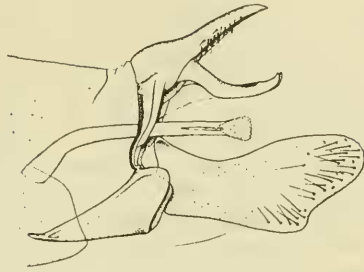
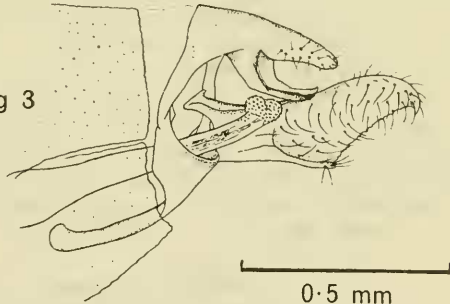


Fig 2

Fig 3



0.5 mm

- Figure 1: ♂ genitalia of *Crypsithyris hemiphracta* Meyrick 1926. Lateral view with left valve omitted.
 Figure 2: ♀ genitalia of *Crypsithyris hemiphracta* Meyrick 1926. Ventro-lateral view.
 Figure 3: ♂ genitalia of *Crypsithyris falcovalsa* spec. nov. Lateral view with left valve omitted.

♂ genitalia (see Figure 3): Uncus lobes fused and hairy. Gnathos arms separate, slender and with slightly upturned points. Saccus stout and apically dilated. Valvae sparsely but evenly haired; expanded towards apex but with conspicuous ventro-apical emargination extending almost half distance to base; tip falcate, incurved and sharply pointed. Aedaeagus moderately long (700μ), stout and anteriorly dilated. Vesica covered with triangular squamiform cornuti.

♀ unknown.

Assigned to the genus *Crypsithyris* on the basis of the genitalia and the character of the subhyaline spot, although all

the veins in the forewing appear to be unstalked. Superficially similar to *C. miranda* (Gozmány 1966) but easily distinguished from all its congeners by the shape of the valvae.

Perissomastix stibarodes (Meyrick 1908) 2 ♂♂; Mole National Game Reserve, 19-21.vi.1972. Gen. slide L.0590 and Bolgatangra 10°48'N., 0°52'W., 15-17.i.1973. Gen. slide L.0591.

Perissomastix sericea Gozmány 1966, 5 ♂♂; Kumasi, 17.xii.1971, 25.xii.1971 and 19.iii.1972 (3). Gen. slides L.0585, L.0586, L.0587, L.0588 and L.0589.

Scalidomia horridella (Walker 1863) 2 ♂♂; Mole National Game Reserve, 19-21.vi.1972. Gen. slides L.0577 and L.0578. This species has not previously been recorded from Ghana, being mainly confined to the southern and eastern parts of Africa (i.e. South Africa, Rhodesia, Angola, Tanzania, Congo and Rwanda).

Scalidomia setialis (Meyrick 1917) 1 ♂ + 1 ♀; Kumasi, 17.xii.1971 and 17.viii.1971. Gen. slides L.0579 and L.0580.

Pitharcha chalinaea Meyrick 1908, 1 ♂; Kumasi, ix.1971. Gen. slide L.0576. A rather small specimen, having a wingspan of only 17 mm. This species has not been previously recorded from Ghana, although it has been taken in Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Ivory Coast.

Tiquadra cultrifera Meyrick 1914, 1 ♀; Kumasi, 13.i.1973.

Among other African material in the Royal Scottish Museum the following are of interest:—

Phereoeca praecox Gozmány & Vári 1973, 1 ♂; GHANA, Accra, ix.1973, R. Hope. Gen. slide L.0598.

Perissomastix breviberbis (Meyrick 1933) 1 ♂; MALAWI, Bungulo, Nkata Bay, 850 m., 3.vi.1962, D. R. Gifford. Gen. slide L.0584. This species has not previously been recorded from Malawi—only from Congo, Central African Republic, Kenya and Nigeria.

Acknowledgement

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Reference

Gozmány, L. A., and Vári, L. (1973). *The Tineidae of the Ethiopian Region*. Transvaal Museum Memoir No. 18.

CORRIGENDA

Reference "Dimorphism in *Papilio* Pupae" by D. G. Sevastopulo (*antea* 87: 109), insert at beginning before "analysis": "The containers in the Calcutta experiments referred to above could be classed as smooth, and the following is an".

Reference "A Key to Males of the British Species of *Neocnemonodon* Goffe (Dipt.: Syrphidae)" by M. C. D. Speight and K. G. V. Smith (*antea* 87: 150): line 20 from bottom for "usable" read "unusable".